

## I-405 Projects Update

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### Weekend closure of northbound I-405 on-ramp in Kirkland

Beginning tomorrow night at 9 p.m., the northbound I-405 on-ramp from eastbound NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street will be closed around the clock until 5 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19. A signed detour will direct drivers to the northbound on-ramp from Totem Lake Boulevard, also located at the NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street interchange.

This closure is necessary for crews to realign the ramp. When the ramp reopens, traffic will travel on the right side of the columns under the NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street bridge next to a new [retaining wall](#) crews built to accommodate this permanent traffic shift. We're moving all the ramps at the NE 124<sup>th</sup> interchange outward to make room in the median to build HOV on and off-ramps which will connect to a new bridge across I-405 at NE 128<sup>th</sup> Street.

### Nighttime I-405 lane closures in Kirkland next week

At the beginning of next week, crews will close lanes in both directions of I-405 between NE 85<sup>th</sup> and NE 128<sup>th</sup> streets to survey pavement and inspect drainage systems.

- On Monday, Dec. 19, we'll close the southbound HOV lane from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. and the right northbound lane from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- On Tuesday, Dec. 20, we'll close the northbound HOV lane from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Please check our frequently updated [construction update report](#) for the latest on upcoming closures.

### No construction traffic closures during holiday week on I-405 in Kirkland

As we mentioned in [last month's message](#), we ask crews to stop work to accommodate holiday travelers. Crews on I-405 in Kirkland will stop work for the week between Christmas and New Year's. Construction traffic closures will end at noon on Friday, Dec. 23, and crews will resume work on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

We encourage you to check our Web site for [real-time traffic information](#) before you get on the road to go spend holidays with family and friends.

## Northbound I-405 traffic shift in Kirkland in January



Crews working on Sound Transit's Totem Lake Freeway Station Project are preparing to shift the northbound lanes of I-405 several feet to the east. This traffic shift is currently scheduled for early January. To get ready, crews are finishing work on the northbound I-405 bridge over NE 132<sup>nd</sup> Street. In early December we [set the girders](#) for the additional width of the bridge, and soon we'll lay the asphalt bridge deck. We'll also be busy paving on the east side of I-405 between NE 124<sup>th</sup> and NE 132<sup>nd</sup>.

Moving northbound traffic over is necessary to provide room to build the supports for the new NE 128<sup>th</sup> Street bridge in the I-405 median. Visit [WSDOT](#) and [Sound Transit's](#) Web pages for more information on this project.

## Quarterly report shows increasing I-405 rush hour travel times, tells on-time story of Nickel projects

We've just published the latest edition of the Gray Notebook, WSDOT's quarterly report on our performance. This edition includes results from a study of travel times on 20 popular commutes in the central Puget Sound area.

This study shows increases of up to four minutes between 2002 and 2004 on I-405 routes during rush hours. We're working to reduce travel times by building projects like the [Totem Lake Freeway Station](#) and the [Kirkland Nickel Project](#).

You can read about this study and much more in the [Gray Notebook](#), including the on-time story of Nickel projects around the State, and the annual bridge condition update.

## A happy and safe new year

All of us at WSDOT would like to wish you a happy new year, and remind you to use our roadways safely, especially at this time of celebration. If you see a vehicle showing signs of driver impairment, please find a safe place to pull off the road and dial 9-1-1, or have a passenger make the call. You could save a life. And if you drink, use a designated driver, a cab, a bus – just don't get behind the wheel. We'll see you in 2006.

## Highway advisory radio updates

Tune your radio to 530 AM or 1520 AM as you drive on I-405 through the Totem Lake area of Kirkland to hear the latest closure information and project updates. Questions or comments? E-mail [Laura Johnson](#).

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